Building up the Body of Christ with Welcoming Arms, Loving Hearts and Joyful Worship.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
APRIL 5, 2020

HOSANNA

“Hosanna to the Son of David / blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”

MATTHEW 21:9
This is a Palm Sunday unlike we’ve ever experienced. Instead of gathering to wave palms during the entrance procession—remembering the way Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem 2000 years ago—we find ourselves at home with no palms and perhaps with a longing to be together.

Palm Sunday is so important to us because we realize we’re so close to Easter. And it’s the moment we would come together to hear the story we all know from the depth of our being: the passages of Christ’s human experience of self-giving, suffering and dying that prepares our hearts and souls for Holy Week and the Resurrection.

The passion of the Christ—the narrative of the events from the gathering of the apostles at the Last Supper to the moment Jesus is buried in a tomb—will be told today, just as it’s been told for over 2000 years, even if it has to be experienced in a different way for us.

But right now, we need to hear it. We need to face into the suffering of the world, just like Jesus did, knowing that in the end it will be redeemed. The suffering—which for us is being experienced not just in those battling the coronavirus, but for everyone who has needed to adjust to a new way of doing things for the common good of all.

So today, we unite our story with Christ’s story as we travel with him to Golgotha and into the tomb. What’s interesting is that the passage begins with the apostles together, celebrating the Passover meal. The passage ends with Joseph of Arimathea, Mary Magdalen, and “the other Mary” watching the stone rolled across the entrance to the tomb.

On Sunday, March 8, we were together at St. Hubert and we entered into the Last Supper with Jesus Christ. Three weeks later, we are at home, watching Mass on screens longing for the ability to see Christ the way he makes himself known to us once again. We’re longing for the Resurrection, the new beginning, the stone removed from the tomb.

And the good news is that it will happen. One day, hopefully soon, we will be together to conclude the story that is a part of our experience as Catholics—the resurrection. Until then, we long for it. And we proclaim the great story that needs to be told over and over again.

May God give you the kind of peace that comes with faith. Longing to be with you soon,

—Fr. Mike
Mass Intentions

While we are unable to gather for Mass, Fr. Mike continues to pray and holds a Mass in memory of our parishioners and loved ones each day. We invite you to remember them in your prayers, as well.

Monday, April 6
7:00 AM  St. Hubert Parishioners

Tuesday, April 7
8:30 AM  St. Hubert Parishioners

Wednesday, April 8
7:00 AM  Communion Service

Thursday, April 9—Holy Thursday
7:30 PM  Kelley Bambenek; Carmen Cardoza

Friday, April 10—Good Friday
7:00 AM  St. Hubert Parishioners

Saturday, April 11—Holy Saturday
7:30 PM  Rosemary Voncina;
Nikola & Ljubica Radman

Sunday, April 12—Easter Sunday
7:30 AM  Robert Brandt; Dorothy Borta;
Ruby Cartwright; Joseph Farrell
9:00 AM  The Palombit Family;
Nikola & Ljubica Radman
10:45 AM  The Jankowski & Stanek Families;
Nancy Barfield; Richard W. Piesko, Sr.
12:15 PM  Jeffrey Henning; Judy Connolly;
Carmen Cardoza

Sick  Saul Danza, Dan Kutt, Yumi Dupont,
Jerry Koncel, Patrick Chau Quan Tan,
Helen Ngo, Charlene Perri, Nancy Early,
Kathy Murtha, Mary Stump, Vivian Trainor,
Tom & Aurora Masen, Peter Jaeger,
Mary Walsh, George Green, Roberta Kleist,
Diana Homyak, Bob Berg, Collin Braune,
John Norkus, Debbie O’Connor, Wyatt Frey,
Bradley Gerlach, Ann Weber, Stephen Weber,
Michelle Molnar, Arlene Reed, Mary Getto,
Fr. Ray Dompke, Nancy Stark, Michael Salter,
Sondra Megrail, Terry & Gail Hileman,
Cindy Kennamer, Jonalyn Soriano

Others  Those who protect at home and overseas

Deceased  Mary Kay Duda, Herminio Nicolas

To have a particular intention for those who are sick, recently deceased, or otherwise in need of prayers considered for inclusion in the Prayer of the Faithful during our Sunday liturgy, please go to the website, www.sainthubert.org and click on the Prayer Request button or call the parish office at 847-885-7700, ext. 102.

Experiencing Holy Week in A New Way
This year, we’ll have to experience Holy Week and Easter in a different way. No, we won’t be able to be together in person, but we’ll unite through the power of prayer and the longing in heart to be with our community that feels like home.

Please watch the website to learn more about how we’ll connect as a community of faith here at St. Hubert. If you haven’t had a chance to sign up for Flock Notes—a way to stay connected through email--now is the time! We’ll let you know what’s planned.

We will travel to Jerusalem, to Golgotha, and will experience the resurrection together in a different way, but a spiritually meaningful way.

In the meantime, if you need to talk, please call me. My priestly ministry is for you. So, please do not feel like I have too much on my plate. I am here to listen and to help in any way I can. Please reach out to me if needed.

May God bless you and may the peace of Christ be with you.

—Fr. Mike
**PRAY**

**GOSPEL MEDITATION:**
ENCOURAGING DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Readings for the week:</th>
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<td>Matthew 21:1-11</td>
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<td>Isaiah 50:4-7</td>
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<td>Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]</td>
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<td>Phil 2:6-11</td>
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<td>Matthew 26:14–27:66 or 27:11-54</td>
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**Monday, April 6**
- Is 42:1-7
- Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17
- Jn 13:1-11

**Tuesday, April 7**
- Is 50:4-9a
- Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34 [14c]
- Mt 26:14-25

**Wednesday, April 8**
- Is 50:4-9a
- Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17
- Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

**Thursday, April 9**
- Ex 12:1-8, 11-14
- Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18
- 1 Cor 11:23-26
- Jn 13:1-15

**Friday, April 10**
- Is 52:13–53:12
- Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25
- Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9
- Jn 18:1–19:42

**Saturday, April 11**
- Gn 1:1–2 or 1:1, 26-31a
- Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35
- Gn 22:1-18
- Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 [1]
- Ex 14:15–15:1
- Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 [1b]
- Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Is 55:1-11
- Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [3]
- Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4
- Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]
- Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28
- Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 [42:2]
- Rom 6:3-11
- Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23
- Mt 28:1-10

**Next Sunday, April 12**
- Acts 10:34a, 37-43
- Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]
- Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8
- Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

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But Jesus cried out again in a loud voice, and gave up his spirit.
And behold, the veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom.
— Matthew 27:11-50-51


Human beings are united in their suffering. When we find ourselves in a painful moment, our first reaction is “why me?” as if we are the only person on earth who ever encountered this challenge. Going through life with a “why me” attitude only finds us wallowing in the mire of self-pity and never seizing opportunities or graces. We walk in solidarity with every human being in the experience of suffering. Believing that the goal of life is the elimination or avoidance of suffering is simply an illusion that keeps us entrenched in a collective myth. This myth distorts us and limits us.

There are living witnesses among us showing how courage and determination can overcome any degree of hardship, pain, loss, or tragedy. Folks finding the normalcy of their lives suddenly torn asunder are faced with options: opportunity or despair, stay or leave. Jesus stands before us as the prime example of endurance and perseverance. He is the One who showed humility through both the triumphs of life (by learning to be humble) and the tragedies and injustices (by learning how to be obedient). To secular ears, this may be perceived as nonsense. But to those with the eyes of faith, they are pearls of great price.

True humility tempers the temptation we have to become complacent and prevents an excessive relishing of life’s successes and affirmations. Learning obedience keeps us faithful to our relationship with God so that we can find the courage to endure any depth of hardship, disappointment, betrayal, or agony. While we may want our cup of suffering to be taken away, it simply cannot be. Somehow and somewhere in the seemingly opposing experiences life can deal us, God is present with His reassuring, compassionate, empowering, and persevering love. To be true to who we are and who God is, we must take up the cross of suffering, even when it’s the hardest and most apparently senseless thing to do.

Only our soul can understand these things, but our minds cannot, so they continue to run to secular ideas and solutions to pain and hardship. It goes without saying that we need to do all we can to eliminate as much senseless, unjust suffering as possible. Hunger, violence, abuse, exploitation, rejection, prejudice, homelessness, disrespect for life, and a whole host of other sins all result in suffering that is within our control. Then, when we face the uncontrollable kind of suffering or find ourselves the victim of injustice, what do we do?
The biblical accounts of Jesus’ passion and death focus very much on his trial, describing it in length and in detail.

And there is a huge irony in how it is described. Jesus is on trial, but the story is written in such a way that, in effect, everyone is on trial, except Jesus. The Jewish authorities who orchestrated his arrest are on trial for their jealousy and dishonesty. The Roman authorities who wield the final power on the matter are on trial for their religious blindness. Jesus’ friends and contemporaries are on trial for their weakness and betrayal. Those who challenge Jesus to invoke divine power and come off the cross are on trial for their superficial faith. And, not least, each of us is on trial for our own weaknesses, jealousies, religious blindness, and superficial faith. The transcript of the trial of Jesus reads like a record of our own betrayals.

Recently the church has tried to help us grasp this by the manner in which it has the Passion proclaimed on Palm Sunday and Good Friday. In many churches today when the Passion is read the narrative is broken up in such a way that one narrator proclaims the overall text, another person takes the part of Jesus, several others take the parts of the various people who spoke during his arrest and trial, and the congregation as a whole is asked to proclaim aloud the parts that were spoken by the crowds. This could not be more appropriate because a congregation in any Christian church today, and we, as individual members of those congregations, in our actions and in our words, in countless ways, mimic perfectly the actions and words of Jesus’ contemporaries in their weaknesses, betrayals, jealousies, religious blindness, and false faith. We too indict Jesus countless times by how we live.

For example, here is how we do it in our words: In Matthew’s account of the trial of Jesus, at a certain moment in the trial, Pontus Pilate comes out to the people, the same people who just five days before had chanted for Jesus to be their king, and tells them that according to custom, at Passover time, he is willing to release one Jewish criminal being held in custody. At the time, he had in custody a particularly infamous murderer named, Barabbas. So Pilate asks the crowd: “Whom should I release for you, Jesus of Nazareth or Barabbas?” The crowd roars back: “Barabbas!” Pilate then asks: “Then what should I do with Jesus of Nazareth?” The crowd’s reply: “Away with him. Have him crucified!” We can make this, very obvious, extrapolation: In every moral choice we make, big or small, ultimately the question we are standing in front of is the same question Pilate asked the crowd: Whom should I release for you, Jesus or Barabbas? Graciousness or violence? Selflessness or self-centeredness?

It is the same when the crowds say to Pilate: “We have no king, except Caesar!” In saying this, they were abandoning their own messianic hopes in favor of a momentary security. We say the same thing every time when, for our own well-being, we sell-out our higher ideals and settle for second best.

As well, all too frequently, we mimic the words of the crowds who challenged Jesus as he was hanging on the cross with these words: “If you are the Son of God, come off the cross, save us, and save yourself.” We do this every time we let our prayers become a test of God’s existence and goodness; if we get a positive answer, God loves us, if not, we begin to doubt.

It is the same, of course, with our actions: Like Jesus’ disciples, we tend to stay with Jesus more when things are going well, when temptation is not too strong, and when we are not facing real, personal threat. But, like Jesus’ original followers, we tend to abandon and betray when things get hard and threatening. Moreover, like the authorities who come to arrest Jesus carrying lanterns and torches, we also often prefer artificial light to the Light of Lights; just as, like those who arrested Jesus, we tend to approach the Prince of Peace carrying clubs and swords, ready for a fight.

Generally, on reading the account of Jesus’ Passion and Death, our spontaneous inclination is to judge very harshly those who surrounded Jesus at his arrest, trial, and sentencing: How could they not see what they were doing? How could they be so blind and jealous? How could they choose false security over God’s ultimate shelter? A murderer over the Messiah? How could his followers so easily abandon him?

Not much has changed in 2000 years. The choices that those around Jesus were making during his trial and sentencing are identical to the choices we are still making today. And most days we are not doing any better than they did because, still, far too often, given blindness and self-interest, we are saying: Away with him! Crucify him!

Used with permission of the author. Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser is a theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, and is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, TX. He can be contacted through his website www.ronrolheiser.com. Reprinted from April 13, 2014.
LIVE THE LITURGY
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

LISTEN CAREFULLY TO THE PASSION OF CHRIST AS IT UNLOCKS THE DOOR THAT BRINGS US TO THE TRUE MEANING OF HUMAN LIFE. HOLDING WHAT SEEMS LIKE OPPOSITE POLARITIES OF HUMAN EXISTENCE, IT WEEVES US THROUGH THE HIGHEST OF TRIUMPHS AND THE DARKEST OF TRAGEDIES. AS WE WITNESS AND MEDITATE UPON JESUS’S LAST DAYS ON EARTH, WE SEE MOST VIVIDLY THAT GOD IS PRESENT IN AND THROUGH IT ALL. GOD IS NOT ONLY THE GLUE THAT HELDS ALL OF LIFE’S SEEMINGLY OPPOSING EXPERIENCES TOGETHER, BUT HE IS THE ONE WHO OFFERS INCREDIBLE PROMISE AND HOPE ON OUR ROAD TO Fulfillment AND ETERNAL LIFE. IT WAS ONLY THROUGH EXPERIENCING THE BURNING AGONY OF SUFFERING’S LONELINESS AND HEART-WRENCHING PAIN THAT JESUS EXPERIENCED THE JOULY EXULTATION OF HIS RESURRECTED SELF. THERE ARE PROFOUND LESSONS HERE FOR ALL OF US TO LEARN.

Sacramental Life

ADORATION: Fridays after 7:00 AM Mass on Fridays.

BAPTISMS: To register for Baptism, stop in or call the Parish Office. Parents must attend a Baptismal Preparation Meeting, which is held on the last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM. You may attend this parent meeting either before or after the baby is born. Baptisms take place on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 1:30 PM or at Mass by arrangement. You will confirm the date for Baptism by attending the Baptism Preparation Meeting.

FUNERALS: Please call the Parish Ministry Center Office to make arrangements.

MARRIAGES: Please do not reserve your banquet hall before confirming the date with the church. Set your date by calling the Parish Office as early as possible as you plan your wedding—at least 6 months before the wedding. Weddings take place on Saturdays at 2:00 PM. Weekdays and Sundays must be arranged individually.

RECONCILIATION: Saturdays after 4:30 PM Mass or by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: Please call the Parish Ministry Center Office to make arrangements for a priest to visit.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP
RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent - Accountable

Easter is only a week away, and churches everywhere in the West are beginning the holiest of weeks. For a moment, even the secular world will bow to religious observances: closings on Good Friday, Easter baskets filled with treats, and television specials featuring Biblical figures. You and I will be reflecting on the meaning of Lent and how we have died and risen with Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Either we have prepared well for this Holy Week observance, or we are left lamenting that maybe next year will be when we get back on track.

The question before us is: “To whom are we accountable?” Did our Lenten observance only have to do with us? Does it matter to anyone if we really took this time seriously or not?

Both faith and community are gifts from God to us. The Church exists so we may live out that faith and respond to God’s call, being strengthened by the grace imparted through the sacraments and the community in which we find ourselves. If we are accountable to no one, then the community is simply an option on a Sunday morning, much like golf or household chores. If we are not accountable to God, then our faith is simply something we look to periodically when we are sad or frightened.

However, if we are accountable to each other and to Jesus Christ, then we must answer for our stewardship gifts of faith and community. The Body of Christ is counting on us. Without a strong sense of accountability, we think our actions only affect us. In the end, we are connected to each other through Christ in such a manner that no one ever stands alone.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Call the Parish Office 847-885-7700, ext. 102 for further questions or to make arrangements.
FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY:
A Reflection by Lynn Howard

To say that my anxiety has been at a high-level these last several weeks would be an understatement. With each daily news report, each sad statistic that’s broadcasted, I am shaken to the core. I fear for my husband, Dad, siblings, children and grandchildren. My niece is a nurse and my nephew is a paramedic; they are in the front line of this pandemic.

Our normal routines are off...no work, no school, no family gatherings and most disturbing to me, not being able to worship with the faith community I love. It’s so strange, no fellowship after mass, no meetings, none of the things we’ve taken for granted all these years.

The thing that has given me the most comfort during this scary time is my faith. Just knowing that Jesus walks with me every day, every minute calms my soul. I have opened my Bible to the Psalms and find such comfort there. Psalms 23:4, 27:1, 34:4, 56:3-4, 94:19, 115:11 all remind us to be calm and trust in Him.

This Easter will be one that none of us could have ever imagined. Not spending the Tridium in our church this year is going to be so sad. We endure because we know that our Lord will be with us, especially as we struggle through these uncertain times with anxious hearts. Faith overcomes our fears, always has and always will. If you’re looking for me I will be on my knees thanking the One who gives me peace.

A Reflection by Deacon Allen Tatara

I am writing this as I sit secluded in my home office. Like all of us here in Illinois (and many other locations worldwide), we have been instructed to stay in and avoid leaving our homes. This, of course, is to prevent the continued spread of the COVID-19 virus. Thousands upon thousands are being mandated to work from home. Many of us have never done that before and may be struggling with this new concept. And if you have others at home with you (especially young children), you may be feeling the stress of wondering how you will be able to accomplish anything. Hopefully, I can help guide you through this challenging ‘remote worker’ journey.

I’ve been fortunate to have been an exclusive work-from-home employee for nearly 8 years now. Prior to that, I was telecommuting several days each week for about 3 years. Over this period, I have learned how to be productive, efficient, and trustworthy. (Yes, trust is a big factor as your employer is trusting that you are doing what you are being paid to do – especially when not in the office and not directly supervised.) Therefore, I would like to share a few tips on how you can work remotely while maintaining your sanity as well as the sanity of those stuck at home with you. Please see my blog at http://deaconallen.com/blog/.

One final thought. I always like to end my day with prayer. Whether doing an examination of conscience or any other type of prayer, it’s always a good idea to have the final words of your day be ones of praise and thanksgiving to the One who made the day possible.

May God bless you and keep you safe during these difficult times.

Remember, we’re all in this together. I’d love to hear if you have some other tips that may be useful for others.
Prayer in Times of Anxiety and Fear

Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things
Whoever has God lacks nothing;
God alone suffices.

—St. Teresa of Avila

Self-Compassion and COVID-19

By Drs Chris Germer and Kristin Neff
Co-founders, Center for Mindful Self-Compassion

Self-compassion can help if the virus is causing you unnecessary anxiety, limiting your ability to work or travel, reducing your income, or if you or someone you know has already contracted the virus. A self-compassionate response to the COVID-19 epidemic may look something like this, modeled on the Self-compassion Break:

- **Mindfulness** - Become aware of how you feel about the virus. Are you feeling anxious, disheartened, confused? Can you feel it in your body? If so, where? Is your mind preoccupied with the virus? If so, what are your thoughts? Can you validate for yourself how you think or feel in a kind and understanding manner? For example, “Yes, this is hard.” “This is difficult.” “This is really stressful.” Can you offer yourself a little space around your feelings, knowing that it’s part of the current situation we’re all in?

- **Common humanity** - When you hear news of people struggling with the virus, can you allow this to enhance your sense of being part of a global family rather than feeling separate? Can you imagine yourself in their situation and say, “Just like me.” Or when you reflect on your own distress, can you remind yourself, “Others feel as I do—I am not alone.” “Sickness is part of living.” “This is how it feels to be a human being right now.”

- **Self-Kindness** - Try putting your hand on heart or some other soothing place, helping to calm some of your anxiety through touch. What words do you need to hear to comfort or reassure yourself about the virus right now? Are they realistic? Can you talk to yourself in a warm, compassionate voice? What actions do you need to take to protect yourself, or to provide for yourself? Can you encourage yourself to take these steps, in a supportive manner?

- Notice if this practice makes you feel more relaxed and compassionate or encourages you to take positive action. Feel free to find your own way to be compassionate with yourself, perhaps by engaging in everyday self-care behaviors such as enjoying a cup of tea or taking a warm bath.

Helping Each Other: Our Sunday Offering

In tough and challenging times, we are grateful for all those who are making an effort to send in their contributions either through the mail or by dropping them off at the church or parish office. We’re also grateful to those who are giving electronically at Give Central—which is becoming more popular in today’s world, and another way to give when you’re not physically present.

Our mission is to be able to build up the Body of Christ in our world around us, and we’re making every effort to keep it going. Thank you for continuing your support in these extraordinary times.

—The St. Hubert Finance Council

Light a Candle Online

We know that Our Lord, Mary, and all the saints hear and respond to our prayers. Light a candle and share your prayer intention so we can pray with you as well.

https://stjohnneumann.org/faith-miracles/light-a-candle-online/
Read the Gospel and Color

Help Jesus get to Jerusalem.

Mission for the Week
Make your own palm branch to wave for Jesus at home. Cut an oval out of green construction paper. Then make cuts toward the middle (but not all the way through) for leaves.

Something to Draw
Draw a picture of yourself waving a branch for Jesus.

Sharing the Gospel
Many years earlier, God’s prophets had written about the Savior. He would heal the blind, he would raise the dead, and he would ride into Jerusalem on a donkey as a gentle king. The people knew Jesus was the Savior they had been waiting for. They treated him like a king.

Prayer
Jesus, help me to treat you like my king.
St Hubert Catholic School
255 Flagstaff Lane, Hoffman Estates, IL
www.sthubertschool.org
817-885-7702

3 YR OLD PRESCHOOL – 8TH GRADE NOW ENROLLING!

3 Year-old Preschool
Monday thru Friday 7:45AM – 1:45PM
Monday thru Friday 7:45AM – 10:30AM
Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 7:45AM – 10:30AM

4 Yr. Jr. Kindergarten
Monday thru Friday 7:45AM – 1:45PM
Monday thru Friday 7:45AM – 10:30AM

Kindergarten
Monday thru Friday 7:30AM – 2:05PM

Grades 1st-8th
Monday thru Friday 7:30AM – 2:05PM

In 2014 Awarded the
United States Department of Education
National Blue Ribbon
School of Excellence!

- Updated Technology Lab
- STEM Room
- After School Robotics and Programming
- Chess Club

- iPads for all students 1st-8th
- Join the Band
- After School Art Club
- Weekly Music and Art
- Weekly Spanish Class

- Daily Prayer and Pledge
- Weekly All School Mass
- Youth Choir
- Student Liturgical Ministry
- Student Council
- Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts

Students perform above the national average in all areas measured by the ASPIRE test.
Recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School.
S.T.E.A.M school with emphasis on Science and Math including Apple Classrooms.
Free Bus Transportation for students within D54.
Affordable before and after care starting at 6:30am and afterschool till 6:00pm.

Boys Athletics
- Cross Country
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Track
- Co-ed Summer Sports Camps

Girls Athletics
- Cross Country
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Track
- Cheer
- Softball

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Job Seeker’s Exchange
April 13, 6:00–7:00 PM
Whether you are a newcomer to the Saint Hubert Job Support Group or one of our members, feel free to attend the meeting, for job seekers, which precedes our regular Monday meeting, where you can sit in and learn from the questions and answers of others. If you would like to register for this event:

1. Send an email with the name of the event, “Job Seeker’s Exchange,” to sainthubertjnmpresentation@gmail.com
2. You will receive an invitation to Zoom.com, a video conferencing platform, to view the presentation on your computer, tablet, or mobile device
3. Click on the link within that email invitation to join the presentation, “Job Seeker’s Exchange,” on Zoom.com.

Networking Like a Pro
April 13, 7:00–9:15 PM
Networking is not something most of us feel comfortable doing. When you have a plan in place on how to network effectively, you will find that you will be better prepared and will leave with better results. Strategic networking starts with a plan in place. Our speaker, Tom Rohan, Executive Recruiter, will discuss tips on how to create that plan so that you can be more comfortable and prepared to network like the pros.

If you would like to register for this event:
1. Send an email with the name of the event, “Networking Like a Pro,” to sainthubertjnmpresentation@gmail.com
2. You will receive an invitation to Zoom.com, a video conferencing platform, to view the presentation on your computer, tablet or mobile device.
3. Click on the link within that email invitation to join the presentation “Networking Like a Pro” on Zoom.com.

Please send any questions to sainthubertjnmpresentation@gmail.com.
Family Life in a Pandemic

by Josh & Stacey Noem, as printed on the USCBB newsletter, “For Your Marriage”

Now there’s a headline I couldn’t have imagined writing three months ago. But here we are.

Like many, we are navigating uncharted waters: e-learning and working remotely from home; social distancing taking away everything from in-person Eucharistic worship to gym memberships; daily news ramping up fear and uncertainty. How are we supposed to raise a family in all of this?

If you think about it, we’ve seen worse. We have it within us to rise to this challenge — we’re parents, for goodness sake! We’ve already seen our social lives decimated after having kids. We’ve weathered sleep deprivation and blown-out diapers. We’ve endured public humiliation with tantrums in grocery stores. What’s a little social distancing?

I’m telling you, there’s a gift in all of this. Our evenings and weekends are cleared. I can’t tell you how many times Stacey and I have looked at each other at the end of a week and asked, “Can you imagine what it would be like if we didn’t have all this stuff to do?” Practices and games and lessons and meetings and parties and on and on. Well, it’s all gone — it’s a time to refocus, rest, and relocate the center of our lives at home.

Intentionality is key, and we’re good at that as parents. Kids force you to have a plan. There’s no other way to survive parenting toddlers — they’d rip us to shreds otherwise. That’s all this is — we just have to make a plan.

Here are some fundamentals we’re building our days around here in the Noem home. Our kids are older — one’s home from college (his university has moved to distance learning for the rest of the semester), and two are in middle school.

Rhythm: Just because we’re working and studying remotely doesn’t mean that we treat every day like a Saturday. We rise at a decent hour together and all go about engaging a work period together until lunch. We check in at lunch time, then set a course for the afternoon. The evening is for thoughtful recreation together and reading.

Meals: We sit down for meals together. It used to be a struggle to find time for family dinner all together more than a couple times a week, but now it’s no stretch to share three meals a day together. That’s a blessing. And eating at home more often allows us to eat more healthy food. In fact, I’ve challenged our kids to each come up with one full dinner that they prepare for the family (with my help). They get to plan the menu and prepare and cook the food entirely — whatever they want.

Screen-time: The temptation would be to chalk up this period to extraordinary circumstances and lean heavily on screens to buy some peace and quiet around the house. I don’t care if you are a holy family like Louis and Zelie Martin raising St. Therese of Lisieux — living in such close proximity for such a long time is not going to be easy. But we’ve decided to retain our regular screen-time limits (one hour per day only on weekends for computer games). We just don’t want to surrender all that time and attention — when you think about it, that’s what family life is.

Information control: We’ve learned to be careful what we discuss together. There is a torrent of information and news around this pandemic swirling around right now. We haven’t had much success in bringing those items of concern into our conversation. We make note of changes to our lifestyle and where they’re coming from, but are now learning to be careful about what we focus our attention on. There’s a lot of uncertainty, and that’s what drives news stories — people can’t get enough information to fill the hole of anxiety they are feeling. Well, we don’t have to dig that hole in the first place. We’re learning to attend to what we can control, and let go of things outside of our responsibility.
Family Life in a Pandemic (continued)

**Recreation:** We’re building in routines to have fun together. We invested in a ping-pong table this winter, and boy was that a good call. Stacey has structured a double-elimination tournament with a round-robin seeding schedule. That’s carrying us through the first week, and has spawned some off-the-record games here and there. We’ve had to sit down and referee some matches because of the bickering, but we’re having fun. We’ll have to figure something else out for next week.

**Movies:** Over the past year, we’ve had informal film festivals around certain themes. First it was movies from the 1980s because the kids got invested in the aesthetic from *Stranger Things*. Then it was heist movies, which was a lot of fun. Now that Tom Hanks was one of the first American celebrities to get sick with the coronavirus, we’ve decided to make our way chronologically through his films.

**Creativity:** If schoolwork and chores run out in a day, we are asking kids to spend at least an hour being creative in some way — write something, draw something, make a music playlist, etc. And if your local library is still open, make sure you stock up before it closes — reading together is a restful way to spend time together.

**Fresh air:** Just because we’re practicing social distance doesn’t mean we can’t get outside. We’ve committed to going outside for a walk together every day. Sometimes, that means a stroll through the neighborhood. Sometimes it’s a visit to a local state park. The fresh air — even if it’s cold — does wonders to clear the head. And it puts us in a space to connect and converse with one another.

**Prayer:** We’ve been more intentional about prayer during Lent anyway, but this pandemic is giving us an opportunity to redouble our efforts. We close each day with 10-15 minutes of silent prayer before coming together for our evening prayer routine. That has been a centering practice for each of us.

**Outreach:** We know that we are blessed with good health and with each other — blessings not everyone shares. So we’re talking about how to bolster the spirits of those who are feeling vulnerable — writing letters to grandparents, checking in on neighbors, donating to local nonprofits serving those on the margins. We want the kids to meet this moment with generosity and confidence — there is a lot they can’t control right now, but there’s a lot we can control. We can work together to make our community better.

Being together is a huge advantage we have as families right now, but we might be too close to it to see it as a gift. So many people are isolated in this crisis and feeling alone. It is a real blessing to have each other in this. Yes, we’ll likely want to tear each other’s heads off several times a week for the next two months, but there’s no reason why we can’t march into summer transformed and strengthened as a family from this experience.

Josh and Stacey have been married for almost 20 years. They have three children in middle school and high school. The Noems live in Indiana, where Stacey teaches in the Master of Divinity program at Notre Dame and Josh is a freelance writer. Their blog is *Happily Even After* [https://www.foryourmarriage.org/from/happily-even-after/](https://www.foryourmarriage.org/from/happily-even-after/)
Giving Blood Saves Lives... Especially Now!
9 parishioners donated 12 units of blood at the Schaumburg Blood Center and a total of 157 units were collected this year!!!

The Vitalant Blood bank is taking extra precautions because of the COVID−19 crisis. Appointments are required. Please call 877-258-4825. All potential donors are having their temperature taken at the door. Those whose temperature exceeds the maximum temperature allowed, cannot donate. They do not test for the Coronavirus.

They are also maintaining social distancing between donors waiting. Eligibility requirements have changed to exclude those who have recently traveled to certain countries - Italy, China, etc. Employees are also maintaining the safe 6 foot distance, except when drawing blood. They are disinfecting the tables and chairs in the center constantly.

Our next blood drive, the Gayle Photokarm Memorial blood drive, is scheduled for Sunday, June 7. If the lower level of church is not available, discussions have been ongoing to have a virtual blood drive. More information will be forthcoming.

We have a special community who has been committed to helping others, and in this case, saving lives.
Vince Wroblewski, Past Grand Knight
Hoffman - Schaumburg Council #6964
Chairperson St Hubert Blood Drives

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